

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:

a communications network; and

a message center system coupled to said communications network, said message center system comprising:

a processor configured to:

associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan,

receive a mobile-originated message generated by a subscriber wireless device; said mobile-originated message including a destination address,

translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and

send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application.

2. A system as in claim 1 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

3. A system as in claim 2 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

4. A system as in claim 1 wherein said message center system is further configured to store said mobile-originated message.

5. A system as in claim 1 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said system further comprises a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said data network, said transfer protocol conversion component for converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

6. A system as in claim 5 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.

7. A system as in claim 5 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

8. A system as in claim 5 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

9. A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:

a wireless network,

a data network;

a message-based application coupled to said data network; said message-based application having a data network address associated therewith;

a subscriber wireless device coupled to said wireless network, said subscriber wireless device for generating a mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan; and

a message center system coupled to said data network and said wireless network; said message center system comprising:

a routing table of destination addresses associated with corresponding data network addresses,

a processor configured to:

receive a mobile-originated message having a destination address,

access said routing table to translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and

send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by said message application.

10. A system as in claim 9 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

11. A system as in claim 10 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

12. A system as in claim 9 wherein said message center system is further configured to store said mobile-originated message.

13. A system as in claim 9 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.

14. A system as in claim 9 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

15. A system as in claim 9 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ('SMS') protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

16. In a communication network, a method for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said method comprising the steps of:

associating destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan;

receiving a mobile-originated message having a destination address;

translating said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and

sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address.

17. A method as in claim 16 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.
18. A method as in claim 17 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.
19. A method as in claim 16 further comprising the step of: at said message center system, storing said mobile-originated message.
20. A method as in claim 16 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said method further comprises the steps of: providing a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said data network and converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.
21. A method as in claim 20 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.
22. A method as in claim 20 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol,

Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

23. A method as in claim 20 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

24. In a communications network, a method for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said method comprising:

generating a mobile-originated message using a mobile subscriber device, said mobile-originated message having a destination address; said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan; and

at a message center system:

receiving said mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith;

accessing a routing table of destination addresses having associated data network addresses;

translating said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and

sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by said message-based application.

25. A method as in claim 24 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

26. A method as in claim 25 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

27. A method as in claim 24 further comprising the step of: at said message center system, storing said mobile-originated message.

28. A method as in claim 24 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said method further comprises the steps of: providing a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated

with said wireless network and said data network and converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

29. A method as in claim 28 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.

30. A method as in claim 28 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

31. A method as in claim 28 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

32. A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:

a communications network,

at least one message center system coupled to said communications network, each of said at least one message center systems configured to:

associate destination addresses with corresponding data network addresses, said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan,

receive a mobile-originated message generated by a subscriber wireless device, said mobile-originated message including a destination address, and

translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address, and;

a message exchange configured to:

receive said mobile-originated message from said at least one message center system, and

send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application.

33. A system as in claim 32 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

34. A system as in claim 33 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

35. A system as in claim 32 wherein said at least one message center system is further configured to store said mobile-originated message.

36. A system as in claim 32 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said system further comprises a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said data network, said transfer protocol conversion component for converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

37. A system as in claim 36 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.

38. A system as in claim 36 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

39. A system as in claim 36 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

40. A messaging address system for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said system comprising:

at least one wireless network;

first and second data networks;

at least one message-based application coupled to said first data network, each of said at least one message-based application having a data network address associated therewith;

a plurality of subscriber wireless device coupled at least one wireless network, each one of said at least one subscriber wireless device for generating a mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith, said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan;

at least one message center system, each one coupled to said data second network and to at least one wireless network; each of said at least one message center system comprising:

a routing table of destination addresses associated with corresponding data network addresses;

a processor configured to:

receive a mobile-originated message having a destination address; and

access said routing table to translate said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and;

a message exchange coupled to said first and second data networks, said exchange having associated therewith a range of destination addresses, said exchange configured to:

receive said mobile-originated message from said at least one message center system,

determine if said destination address matches one of said range of destination addresses, and

if a match exists, send said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by said at least one message-based application.

41. A system as in claim 40 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

42. A system as in claim 41 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

43. A system as in claim 40 wherein said at least one message center system is further configured to store said mobile-originated message.

44. A system as in claim 40 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of packet-switched network, circuit-switched network and a combination thereof.

45. A system as in claim 40 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or a combination thereof.

46. A system as in claim 40 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

47. In a communications network, a method for facilitating interaction between mobile subscribers and message-based applications, said method comprising:

generating a mobile-originated message using a mobile subscriber device, said mobile-originated message having a destination address, said destination addresses formatted in accordance with a standard non-geographic numbering and administration plan;

at a message center system:

receiving said mobile-originated message having a destination address associated therewith,

accessing a routing table of destination addresses having associated data network addresses,

translating said mobile-originated message's destination address into its corresponding data network address; and

at a message exchange having associated therewith a range of destination addresses:

receiving said mobile-originated message from said at least one message center system, and

determining if said destination address matches one of said range of destination addresses, and

if a match exists, sending said mobile-originated message to said corresponding data network address for receipt by a message-based application.

48. A system as in claim 47 wherein said destination address is formatted in accordance with the Numbering Plan (NANP) service access code (SAC) format.

49. A system as in claim 48 wherein the format of said destination address comprises N00-NXX-XXXX, where N is any number 2-9 and X is any number 0-9.

50. A method as in claim 47 further comprising the step of: at said message center system, storing said mobile-originated message.

51. A method as in claim 47 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said method further comprises the steps of: providing a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said data network and converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

52. A method as in claim 51 wherein said data network is a network selected from the group consisting of a packet-switched network, circuit-switched network or any combination thereof.

53. A method as in claim 51 wherein said wireless network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Global System for Mobile ("GSM") protocol, Time Division Multiple Access ("TDMA") protocol, Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") protocol, other American National Standards Institute – 41 ("ANSI-41") protocols, or any combination thereof.

54. A method as in claim 51 wherein said data network implements a protocol selected from the group consisting of the Short Message Service ("SMS") protocol, Enhanced Messaging Services ("EMS") protocol, Multimedia Messaging Services ("MMS") protocol, Internet Protocol ("IP") based technologies using telephone number mapping ("ENUM"), or any combination thereof.

55. A system as in claim 9 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said system further comprises a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said

data network, said transfer protocol conversion component for converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

56. A system as in claim 40 wherein said communications network comprises a wireless network and a data network and said mobile-originated message having an associated transfer protocol and wherein said system further comprises a wireless-to-data network transfer protocol conversion component associated with said wireless network and said data network, said transfer protocol conversion component for converting said mobile-originated message transfer protocol from said wireless to said data and vice versa.

57. A system as in claim 6 wherein said data network is the Internet.

58. A system as in claim 13 wherein said data network is the Internet.

59. A method as in claim 21 wherein said data network is the Internet.

60. A method as in claim 29 wherein said data network is the Internet.

61. A system as in claim 37 wherein said data network is the Internet.

62. A method as in claim 44 wherein said data network is the Internet.

63. A method as in claim 52 wherein said data network is the Internet.

64. A method as in claim 32 wherein said message exchange is further configured to provide for and assign upon request destination addresses to said message based-applications and wherein said method further comprises the step of:
requesting that said message exchange assign said destination addresses to said message based applications;

associating said requested destination addresses to corresponding data network addresses of said message-based applications; and

forwarding mobile-originated messages, by said message exchange, to said message-based applications based on said assignment step.

65. A method as in claim 40 wherein said message exchange is further configured to provide for and assign upon request destination addresses to said message based-applications and wherein said method further comprises the step of:

requesting that said message exchange assign said destination addresses to said message based applications;

associating said requested destination addresses to corresponding data network addresses of said message-based applications; and

forwarding mobile-originated messages, by said message exchange, to said message-based applications based on said assignment step.

66. The various embodiments of the present invention and equivalents thereto as shown and described herein.